

## The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

The *Watchman and Southron* was founded in 1880 and the *True Southron* in 1886. The *Watchman and Southron* now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

## REGISTER! REGISTER!

We are informed that the people of our city have not been registering as they should have done for the election in January, which will decide whether or no this city shall have lights that are lights, and water works that will do some good in the event of a fire. No more important election has ever been advertised to be held since the town was founded, and we hope that our people will not let themselves become apathetic and indifferent. What we want is a free and full expression of the will of the people. This can be secured only by registering and voting.

The future of Sumter is surely a bright one unless every sign shall fail, which we do not for a moment believe. The city has reached a crisis in its history. She has now the opportunity to place herself on record as among the progressive towns of the New South, or take a back seat as being a cross-roads village. The city rate of taxation is abominably low, compared with other towns of like size and importance. The time has come to put Sumter in the van of progress. It will cost some money, but all we expend and much more will come back to us in the enhanced value of property and the influx of population and industries. We therefore say again, Register! Register! Do not let this most important matter go by default. Let the popular will be declared one way or the other in an unmistakable manner. The time for registering will expire on Monday, Dec. 24. Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

## THE VIEWS OF "CITIZEN."

Citizen has criticised our editorial advocating water works and electric lights, denying some of our figures and rebutting our arguments. We have no idea of deserting our guns, nor do we think "Citizen" has established his case. It is no longer possible to sever these two questions. That should have been done, if at all, at the previous election on the general question whether we should or should not have water works and electric lights. That question having been decided in favor of having them, it is not possible to re-open it, nor is it practicable at this time to discuss it.

Moreover, the fact plainly is that it will be cheaper to the town to have the two things together than separately. It is therefore a matter of economy to have not one but both at the same time. Our figures as to insurance rates were furnished by a man who professes to know, and considerably differ from those furnished by "Citizen." We can not undertake to say which is correct, but we venture to state that "Citizen" ought to know that the Insurance Companies have largely increased their rates in Sumter on the ground of insufficient water supply. This is undeniable. Whatever will reduce these rates will reduce also the prices of goods in all the stores in town, and the many not the few will get the benefit of that reduction in a lower cost of living.

Moreover, it is a fact that every town that aspires to be anything but a village, has water works. They are put ahead of gas or electric lights in many places. Why should every young city act in this way unless it be that the common experience of them all teaches that water works are regarded as an absolutely necessary part of the equipment of every well-regulated town? Will "Citizen" please answer that question?

"Citizen" seems to think that the fires in Sumter have been confined to an old wooden building every five or six years. If "Citizen" knows anything of the fire record of this town, he knows that from Rosendorf's to Bogin's and from Solomon's to Scaff's on Main street, and from Harris street nearly to Sumter street on the South side of Liberty street has been burnt within the last fifteen years, some of it twice. The loss was not less than one hundred thousand dollars, including the cost of rebuilding in brick. How is that for "Citizen's" "old wooden building burning once in every few years?" This huge sum would pay for several plants such as would amply protect our property from the fire fiend. What has happened, may happen again. Let our people reflect on these facts before they decide to adopt views which we feel compelled to say savor of false economy.

## CHRISTMAS.

Before our next paper goes to press the joyous festival of Christmas, 1888, will have been numbered with all the other like days in the past. It is meant to be a time of "peace on earth and good will among men," as the shepherds heard the angels sing on the eve of the Nativity. A time for family gatherings around the flaming yule log, when the scattered sons and daughters assemble once more under the ancestral roof, and interchange the sweet and tender sentiments of affection. A time when those who know not want should think of those whose daily lives are one long, hopeless struggle with bitter and biting poverty; and not content with taking thought concerning them, should put their hand in their pocket and relieve the necessities

of the poor as far as may be in their power.

Wishing all our friends and patrons a merry Christmas, we urge that the celebration of the event be attended by none of those unseemly excesses which are so foreign to the meaning and intent of the day, and which leave nothing but regrets behind. A merry Christmas to all!

## HANDS OFF, SOUTH CAROLINA.

Such is the appropriate heading of an article in the *News and Courier* of the 19th inst., giving the text of Judge Simonton's decision in the case of Isabella Lee vs. R. W. Simpson, Executor of Clemson. The effect of the decision is to delay the conveyance of the Clemson property to the State until such time as the claims of Miss Lee shall have been passed upon and finally adjudicated. This takes the matter out of the purview of the legislative enactment for the present. We believe it is best that the State should wait. This action was rendered necessary by the fact that if once the legal title had passed to the State, Miss Lee's rights, whatever they are, would be finally lost, because a State is sovereign and cannot be impeached, according to the Constitution of the United States.

## PERSPECTIVE'S LETTER.

A carefully considered communication in another column by "Perspective" deserves to be as carefully read by the thinking people who receive this paper. We were compelled to divide the letter. When its other and better half appears, we shall have something further to say about it. "Perspective" has been thinking to some purpose, it is evident. There is much in our present situation and surroundings to give us pause, and there is room for the exercise of the highest statesmanship, of which we do not seem to have a superfluity at present.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

A count of the vote shows that the majority of the people of the United States are not opposed to Cleveland and reform. He was defeated because of the cumbersome and tortuous machinery of the Electoral College; but he secured 80,000 more votes than Harrison, and 18,000 more than he received four years ago. The majority of the people are for tariff reform.

The Philadelphia Times says of the election:

"Benjamin Harrison will be the first President chosen by the electoral college over a candidate who received a larger popular vote. We have had a number of minority Presidents, but only two of them—John Quincy Adams and Rutherford B. Hayes,—had a smaller popular vote than any single competitor."

Neither of them was elected by the electors in the way Harrison will be elected. Adams was elected by the House and Hayes by fraud.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)  
WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 14, 1888.

Mr. Cleveland has received the resignation of U. S. District Attorney E. B. Sellers, of the Indianapolis district, but has not yet accepted it, nor will he unless compelled to do so. The Attorney General has telegraphed to Mr. Sellers informing him that the President joins him in requesting a withdrawal of the resignation. Both Mr. Cleveland and the Attorney General would like for Mr. Sellers to remain in office to prosecute the election fraud cases, including that of W. W. Dudley.

The River and Harbor bill, appropriating \$11,906,850, has been reported to the House. It will probably pass the House all right, but from recent expressions on the part of republican Senators it is probable that it will never be considered by the Senate. In view of the very large appropriation for this purpose, made at the last session,—nearly \$22,000,000, no tears are likely to be shed over the failure of the present bill.

Senator Beck's health is slowly improving, but he will not resume his seat at the present session. He leaves in a few days for Aiken, S. C., where he will spend the winter.

Two canons of the democratic members of the House have been held this week, in order to determine upon a policy in regard to the admission of new states. The great diversity of opinion on the subject developed by the discussion, made it evident that it would be impolitic to attempt to bind the members, so that they will vote as they please on the subject, provided that the question gets before the House, which many members think extremely doubtful.

John Sherman denies the story that he would refuse a place in Harrison's cabinet for fear that Gov. Foraker would succeed him in the Senate, and intimates very strongly that he will take the State Department if it is offered to him. Blaine is in the same condition. The question among big republicans here is which one of them will capture the plauder. If I were a betting man I should feel disposed to back Blaine.

The President has issued an order extending the civil service over the Railway mail clerks. People are wondering whether any of the numerous bills introduced at the last session aimed at the various 'trusts' are likely to be passed this winter. The general impression seems to be that nothing will be done. In fact, the most of the bills introduced are regarded by shrewd lawyers as unconstitutional. There is some talk among the democrats in the House of taking the wind out of the republican sails by passing a bill repealing the entire tobacco tax. Whether this idea, which many consider a good one, will be allowed to end in talk, cannot be told.

"Little Billy" Chandler's latest is a feeble attempt to get up a Congressional investigation of the election in South Carolina. Chandler's rantings receive no attention. Even the republicans have become tired of his everlasting song of Southern outrages, and it is not likely that he will ever secure the

'investigations' which he so much desires.

The democratic Senators have done good work this week, in showing the weak points in the Senate tariff bill. They do not expect to defeat it, but they are determined to offer amendments to every section of it that they think wrong, thus putting on record their protests. That is all they can do, and it is all that the party expects of them. If republican Senators vote against their own opinions, as they have done daily of late under the party lash, it is their own lookout.

There was a rumor early this week that Senator Brown, of Georgia, who has not been here this session, intended to resign. His nearest friends say there is no foundation for the rumor.

A general Army order has been issued, announcing that hereafter there will be published annually at the end of each year a roll of honor, making mention of officers and enlisted men. The first will be issued at the close of 1889.

An effort is being made to have Congress refund to the widow of Gen. Hancock the money which he expended out of his own pocket to entertain the French officers who attended the Yorktown celebration in 1881. Senator Cockrell has introduced a resolution, which was passed, directing the Secretary of War to furnish the Senate with a statement of the amount so expended. When that statement is furnished, a joint resolution will be offered directing that the amount, with interest, be refunded to the widow. This is a just claim, and one that should be paid at the earliest moment.

## Kershaw's Railroad Bonds.

Col. Blanding Charges the "Three C's" Road with a Breach of Contract.

A meeting of taxpayers was held in Camden on the 17th to elect delegates to a meeting on the 22d, to act in the railroad bond matter, and listened to a speech of Col. J. D. Blanding, ex-president of the "Three C's".

Col. Blanding has been suffering from a severe bronchial and neuralgic attack for the past three weeks and attended this meeting at inconvenience, but expects to return to the meeting on the 22d unless prevented by sickness. We copy the following special report from the *News and Courier*:

Col. Blanding intimated to your correspondent that Col. R. A. Johnson was the man who caused all this trouble, and that he hoped that the "Three C's" would send some man to meet him when he returns to the mass meeting on Saturday.

There were few people from town, but about twenty-five or thirty from the county were present at the meeting. The substance of the speech of Col. Blanding was as follows: He said as a reason for being present that he was invited by Maj. Sill and others to address the meeting upon what he knew about the railroad bond question. He said that he was president of the Georgetown and Northern Railroad, and as director of the "Three C's" Road, had told the people of Camden that certain things would be done, and as they had not been done the question was raised whether he (Col. Blanding) acted in good faith. "I want to show that I have acted in good faith. I have maintained my good name and character, and will do so, not at ten paces, but by burying the lie in the face of the man who spots my name. You cannot repudiate any honest contract, which must always be carried out in good faith on the part of both parties to the contract. If this company does not do what they absolutely agreed to do when I had the authority to make the contract; if they do not carry it out in good faith it is null and void, and you need not pay the remaining bonds subscribed to the company. You must carry on your part if the railroad does theirs. But I will show on next Saturday that the Three C's have acted in good faith on the contract which I, as president, had a right to make. They have not built the road to the Sumter line which was distinctly specified. I hope they will have some one here on Saturday to meet me, for I will show that they have no right to get your \$40,000 from DeKalb township. You need not pay till the work is done as was agreed upon."

Here Col. Blanding said that he hoped the correspondent of the *News and Courier* would carefully take down what was said. He said that he wished to be reported correctly. Your correspondent, not being a stenographer, could not report verbatim, but hopes that he gives the sense correctly of what was said. Col. Blanding continued: "I say to the people of York, you have no moral ground, and to the people of Kershaw, you have no moral ground to repudiate these bonds. I say to DeKalb township, you can repudiate or pay as you please, for the road has not been completed with its part of the contract. The Three C's have deceived you and left undone what ought to have first been done. I will bring facts on Saturday."

He was here asked by Capt. Rollings to state what the Three C's had promised. He answered in effect, a competing line to Charleston. [Applause.] "You were to pay \$25,000 when that was completed from the Sumter County line to Camden, \$50,000 when completed from Camden northward to me, and so on. The road has not been completed to the Sumter line. You have no competing line as I, who had the authority to do so, promised you for the company, and you still have around your neck the liability of the South Carolina Company, and the poor farmer pays for it. [Applause.] I want you to understand that I am so Tillamite, but I will stand by the people of Kershaw and Camden, and if necessary go to the aid of my hand on a Bible, and swear to facts which will show plainly that you ought to be relieved of your bonds." [Applause.] Col. Blanding will be in Camden again on Saturday, when he will address the meeting to be held then.

## A Romantic Episode.

Who was Florens Budwin? At Florence, S. C., from a small headstone of marble that stands in the cemetery for federal soldiers I copied the following inscription into my note book:

2480.

Florens Budwin. The name suggested a woman and a possible history. I hunted up the records of the case and found, in fact, that Florens Budwin, of Philadelphia, died at Florence, S. C., Jan. 23, 1865, age 20, and that she was the wife of one Capt. Budwin, who died at Andersonville, Ga. Nothing more. These meager details only whetted my appetite for more information. From local tradition I learned that she was a prisoner of war at the time of her death in childbirth. Disguised in the uniform of a private soldier, she had enlisted and followed her husband, had been captured by the confederates, and her sex was never suspected until she was confined of a child. So romantic an episode deserves a historian. Can any of your readers throw any further light on the subject?—*American Notes and Queries*

Our information now says the Greenville News that the direct taxes for this State, if the bill is not vetoed by the President, will go largely to the representatives of those citizens of Beaufort who paid them or whose property was sold to pay them. We supposed from the lapse of time and changes of population that a large proportion of the sum would remain unclaimed and go into the State treasury, but it is said there will be claimants for nearly every dollar.

Nearly all, colds are slight, at first, but their tendency is to lower the system that the sufferer becomes a ready victim to any prevalent disease. The use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, in the beginning of a cold, would guard against this danger.

The *York Enterprise* is a new paper at Yorkville, S. C., published by the York Publishing Company and edited by W. L. McDonald, the first number of which is *Harper's Magazine* for January. The action of the drama develops several powerful scenes, the vigor of which J. R. Wegelin, the artist, renders with fidelity in as many illustrations. One of the drawings, entitled "This Baiting thou shalt rue," forms the frontispiece of the *Magazine*. There is a suggestion of the Greek chorus in the band of Bacchantes. The refrain of their song "On to Rome!" together the whole drama, it catches together in a phrase the leading thread of the plot.

The Boston Musical Herald presents unusual attractions in its Xmas number. It is especially strong in its Editorial department, while its Questions and Answer, Review of New Music, Musical Reading Course, and other departments, make the Journal invaluable to students of music. Three choice Xmas Carols will be welcomed by Choralists. Subscription, \$1.00 per year. Address, Boston Musical Herald, Franklin Square, Boston, Mass.

Competent critics have frequently remarked that the author of "Ben-Hur" had in him the elements of a dramatist. Their judgment upon General Lew Wallace will be sustained by his play "Common Sense" in *Harper's Magazine* for January. The action of the drama develops several powerful scenes, the vigor of which J. R. Wegelin, the artist, renders with fidelity in as many illustrations. One of the drawings, entitled "This Baiting thou shalt rue," forms the frontispiece of the *Magazine*. There is a suggestion of the Greek chorus in the band of Bacchantes. The refrain of their song "On to Rome!" together the whole drama, it catches together in a phrase the leading thread of the plot.

In the recent election in Boston 17,000 women voted. It is said that they rivalled the men in zeal and with all the arts of the politician supplemented by the enthusiasm of sex? Nice that.

## HOLIDAY NOTICE.

SUMTER, S. C., Dec. 19, 1888.

MONDAY next, the 24th inst., being Christmas Eve this Bank will be closed on that day and on Christmas day. All papers due on those days must be paid Saturday, 22nd.

W. ALSTON PRINGLE, JR., Cashier Sumter National Bank.

Dec. 19, '88.

## SHERIFF'S SALES.

By virtue of Sundry Executions, to me directed, will be sold at Sumter C. H., on the first MONDAY and day following in JANUARY next, 1889, and as many days thereafter as may be necessary, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder, for cash, the following property:

Fifty (50) Bushels Sweet Potatoes more or less, levied upon as the property of Thomas Ballard to satisfy agricultural lien of D. Rosendorf & Co.

One blue painted, One Horse Wagon, and One Set Second Hand Single Harness, levied upon as the property of Cesar Simmons, under tax execution of the City of Sumter against Cesar Simmons.

One Bale Seed Cotton in house, two (2) Bales Seed Cotton in field, (75) seventy-five Bushels of Corn, 2,000 lbs. Pea Vine Hay, 1,000 lbs. Fodder, 200 Bushels Cotton Seed, all more or less, levied upon as the property of J. O. Darrat, to satisfy rent lien of D. F. Dixon against J. E. Shaw.

E. SCOTT CARSON, S. S. C. Sheriff's Office, Dec. 19, 1888.

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Dec. 19—3m.

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1889 THE WEEKLY HERALD 1889

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